

NAME OF EVENT: ACS Los Angeles: Confronting the Assault on Teaching Comprehensive and Inclusive American History

DATE | TIME | LOCATION: April 25, 2023 | 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM, Pacific Time | Online

BRIEF DESCRIPTION:

Please join the ACS Los Angeles Lawyer Chapter for a discussion that will focus on staying “Woke” to address when conservative politicians and pundits demonize the very people who are struggling to overcome centuries of racial oppression, segregation, and discrimination. We will also present the UCLA Law CRT Forward tracking Project’s Interactive Map, a great tool for identifying, tracking and analyzing nearly 400 instances of anti-CRT activity at the local, state and federal level, and demonstrate how you can use the map to prepare yourself when anti-CRT forces arise in your communities.

SPEAKERS’ NAMES AND BIOS:

- **Taifha Natalee Alexander**, CRT Forward Project Director, UCLA School of Law
- **Stephen Rohde**, Founder and Chair, Interfaith Communities United for Justice and Peace; Author, *American Words of Freedom: The Words That Define Our Nation and Freedom of Assembly*; Co-author, *Foundations of Freedom: A Living History of Our Bill of Rights*.



- **Taifha Natalee Alexander** currently serves as the CRT Forward Project Director at UCLA School of Law Critical Race Studies Program. She graduated, with honors, from both Georgetown Law and UCLA School of Law. Taifha has over twelve years of experience in higher education. Her legal studies and research are focused at the intersection of law, critical race studies, higher education, social justice, and equity. While a law student at Georgetown, Taifha’s article, *We Cant Breathe: How Top Law Schools Can Resuscitate an Inclusive Climate*, was published in the Georgetown Journal of Modern Critical Race Perspectives. Since earning her JD, Taifha has served in roles at University of South Carolina Aiken, UCLA, and Wofford College, to manifest the recommendations she put forth in her article. Taifha’s commitment to equity, justice, and anti-racism was fostered at St. John’s University in Queens, NY, where she earned her Bachelor of Science in Legal

Studies.



- **Stephen Rohde** is a constitutional scholar, lecturer, writer, political activist and retired civil rights lawyer. He is a founder and Chair of Interfaith Communities United for Justice and Peace, past President of the ACLU of Southern California, a Past Chair of Bend the Arc: a Jewish Partnership for Justice, and is on the board of Death Penalty Focus. He is the author of two books *American Words of Freedom: The Words That Define Our Nation* and *Freedom of Assembly* and co-author of *Foundations of Freedom: A Living History of Our Bill of Rights*. He has written for the *Los Angeles Times*, *Huffington Post*, *Truthout*, *American Prospect*, *Truthdig*, and *Ms. Magazine* and is a regular contributor to the *Los Angeles Review of Books* and *Los Angeles Lawyer* magazine. He is a graduate of Northwestern University and Columbia Law School.

AGENDA OF PROGRAM:

- Introduction (5 mins)
- Discussion (40 mins)
- Open Q&A (15 mins)

READING MATERIALS:

- Shennan, Rhona, [What Does Woke Mean? Definition of Woke Culture in 2023 - And What Critics Mean By 'Woke Police'](#) (April 27, 2021).
- Hirsch, Afua, [The Struggle for Equality is Real. The 'Woke Police' are a Myth](#) (September 26, 2019).
- Alfonseca, Kiara, [What Does 'Woke' Mean and Why are Some Conservatives Using It?](#) (January 20, 2023).
- Mervosh, Sarah, [Florida Scoured Math Textbooks for 'Prohibited Topics.' Next Up: Social Studies](#). (March 26, 2023).
- Gira Grant, Melissa, [Conservatives are Trying To Ban Books in Your Town. Librarians are Fighting Back](#) (March 16, 2023).

- Spivey, William, [If You're Against Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. Doesn't That Make You for Whiteness, Disparity, And Rejection?](#) (March 13, 2023).
- Rohde, Stephen, [You've Got to Be Carefully Taught](#) (January 25, 2023).
- Bader, Eleanor J., [New College of Florida is Desantis's Launchpad for Attack on Higher Education](#) (March 18, 2023).
- Brett, Mia, [Who's Afraid of 'Critical Race Theory'? Jews Should Embrace the Right's Latest Bogeyman](#) (December 7, 2020).
- [CRT Forward Releases New Report on Anti-CRT Measures and Trends](#), UCLA (April 6, 2023).
- Crenshaw, Kimberlé W., [This Is Not a Drill: The War Against Antiracist Teaching in America](#), 68 UCLA L. Rev. 1702 (2022).
- [Pernell v. Fla. Bd. of Governors of the State Univ. Sys.](#), 2022 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 208374 (N.D. Fla., Nov. 17, 2022)
- [Pernell v Florida Board of Governors PI Order](#). American Civil Liberties Union. November 17, 2022.).
- Yacovone, Donald. (2023). [Teaching White Supremacy: America's Democratic Ordeal and The Forging of Our National Identity](#). VINTAGE.
- Katznelson, Ira. (2006). [When Affirmative Action Was White: An Untold History of Racial Inequality In Twentieth Century America](#). W. W. Norton & Company.
- Roosevelt III, Kermit. (2022). [The Nation That Never Was: Reconstructing America's Story](#). The University of Chicago Press.
- Hannah-Jones, Nikole. (2021). [The 1619 Project: A New Origin Story](#). One World.
- [Board of Education v. Pico](#), 457 U.S. 853 (1982)
- [Case v. Unified School District No. 233](#), 908 F.Supp. 864 (D. Kan. 1995)
- [Minarcini v. Strongsville City School District](#), 541 F.2d 577 (6th Cir. 1976)
- [Counts v. Cedarville School District](#), 295 F.Supp.2d 996 (W.D. Ark. 2003)
- [Mozert v. Hawkins County Board of Education](#), 827 F.2d 1058 (6th Cir. 1987)